GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1548
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
TRANSGENIC CROPS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the farmers to grow transgenic crops in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the likely impact thereof on the yield of the crops and on the health of people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b): The Government of India have not permitted any transgenic crops for commercial cultivation in the country.

(c): Scientific evaluation of the transgenic crops with regard to their safety to the environment and safety to human and animal health are the main issues under study before the transgenic crops are put to commercial use. From the available information, increases in crop yield have been reported under biotic and abiotic stress conditions. No adverse impact on human health from transgenic crops marketed in other parts of the world have been reported.